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1 OF 1

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7 February 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 6/79)

CONTENTS

PAGE

ASIA

AUSTRALIA

Mental Health Director Says Marihuana Will Be Legalized (THE AGE, 8 Dec 78)	1
Royal Commission Hears Report on Heroin Dangers (THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 16 Dec 78)	2
Study Reveals Statistics on Drug Abusers (THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 18 Dec 78)	3
Police Seek Wider Powers To Control Drugs (THE AUSTRALIAN, 20 Dec 78)	4
Cannabis Users Turn To Heroin (THE COURIER-MAIL, 6 Dec 78)	5
Four Convicted for Growing Cannabis (THE WEST AUSTRALIAN, 9 Dec 78)	6
Salesman Gets 6-Year Sentence for Cannabis (THE COURIER-MAIL, 15 Dec 78)	7
Marihuana 'Middleman' Gets 5-Year Sentence (THE COURIER-MAIL, 9 Dec 78)	8
Heroin Sent Through Mail (THE AGE, 16 Dec 78)	9
Three Charged With Trafficking Moved to Detention Center (THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 30 Dec 78)	10
Heroin Suspect Held in Leg Irons (THE COURIER-MAIL, 23 Dec 78)	11

- a -

[III - INT -138 FOUO]

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Eight Charged as Result of Drug Raids (THE AGE, 1 Jan 79)	12
BURMA	
Man Gets Life Under Narcotic Drugs Law (WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 11 Jan 79)	13
Heroin Shipment Seized in Mandalay (BOTATAUNG, 12 Jan 79)	14
Briefs	
Opium Dealers Arrested in Pinlaung	15
Police, Peasants Destroy Plants	15
Arrests in Latha, Mingala	15
Two Heroin Arrests	15
Drug Arrests	16
Heroin Package Brings Arrest	16
Three Sentenced	16
HONG KONG	
Briefs	
Truckload of Hashish	17
INDONESIA	
ASEAN Narcotics Experts Meet in Jakarta (ANGKATAN BERSENJATA, 15 Nov 78)	18
Narcotics Course Given for Police, Customs Personnel (ANGKATAN BERSENJATA, 18 Nov 78)	19
Briefs	
Drug Seizures	20
Morphine Confiscated	20
JAPAN	
Briefs	
Drug Seizures in 1978	21
MALAYSIA	
Ministry To Form Antidrug Abuse Council (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 25 Jan 79)	22

- b -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Parties Urged To Set Up Antidrug Units (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 1 Jan 79)	23
Poor Response To Survey on Teacher-Addicts (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 3 Jan 79)	24
Regional Narcotics Conference Held in Kuala Lumpur (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 9, 10, 11 Jan 79)	25
Detour Method of Smuggling, by James Ritchie Conference Demonstrates U.S. Commitment Regional Effort Is Essential, Editorial	
Narcotics Arrests, Trials Reported (Various sources, 1, 6 Jan 79)	28
Sarawak Police List 359 Addicts Singapore Bail Jumper Caught Morphine Trial in Brunei	
NEW ZEALAND	
Antidrug Campaign Releases Drug Identification Kit (EVENING POST, 16 Dec 78)	30
Fifth Largest Heroin Seizure Nets Three Suspects (EVENING POST, 21 Dec 78)	31
Five Hospitalized After Taking DMA (THE PRESS, 20 Dec 78)	32
Informants Say Drug Raids Ineffective (EVENING POST, 11 Dec 78)	33
Cannabis Charges Bring 3-Year Sentence (EVENING POST, 13 Dec 78)	34
Seven Remanded in Tauranga Drug Raid (EVENING POST, 13 Dec 78)	35
Serious Overdoses Reported From DMA (EVENING POST, 22 Dec 78)	36
Briefs Jailed on Heroin Count	37

- c -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
SINGAPORE	
Briefs	
Morphine Users Jailed	38
THAILAND	
Canadians Held in Police Heroin Swoop (BANGKOK POST, 18 Jan 79)	39
Chiang Mai Court To Try Two Australians (BANGKOK NATION REVIEW, 19 Jan 79)	40
Australians Supplier Finally Caught (BANGKOK POST, 21 Jan 79)	41
Police Raid Nets Ten Tons of Marijuana (BANGKOK POST, 20 Jan 79)	42
Briefs	
Drug Suspect Suicide	43
Heroin Smuggler Arrested	43
One Year for Frenchman	43
Heroin Seized at Airport	44
Carried Drugs to Victoria	44
LATIN AMERICA	
BRAZIL	
Trafficker Arrested With Drug Related Material Worth 20 Million Cruzeiros (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 29 Dec 78)	45
CHILE	
Briefs	
Drug Traffickers Disbanded	47
MEXICO	
Baeza: Country More a Transshipment Point Than Source of Marihuana (EL SOL DE MEXICO, 13 Dec 78)	48
Cocaine Seized in Tijuana, Chiapas (Sergio Gomez Padilla; EL SOL DE MEXICO, 12 Dec 78) .	49

- d -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Briefs	
Drug Training for DGPT	51
Shootout in Sinaloa	51
Drug-Carrying Tank Trucks	52
PERU	
Briefs	
Drug Ring Broken	53
Marxist Leader Arrested	53
VENEZUELA	
Briefs	
Drug Pusher	54
Drug Arrest	54
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	
MADAGASCAR	
Increased Availability of Dangerous Drugs Reported (Mustafa Zawy; JEUNE AFRIQUE, 10 Jan 79)	55
WESTERN EUROPE	
FRANCE	
Briefs	
Drug Use Rising	57
Drug Hauls Seized	57
NORWAY	
Authorities Report Increase in Pharmaceuticals Thefts (AFTENPOSTEN, 4 Jan 79)	58
Authorities Discuss Increased Heroin Traffic in Oslo (Petter Nome; ARBEIDERBLADET, 6 Jan 79)	59
Briefs	
Fewer Bergen Drugs Cases	62

- e -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
SPAIN	
Drug Abuse Commission Restructured (ABC, 27 Dec 78)	63
Hashish Confiscated in Malaga (YA, 24 Dec 78)	64
Briefs	
Theft of Morphine, Cocaine	65
Dutch, English Traffickers	65
Heroin, Cocaine From Thailand	65
Heroin Seizure	66

- f -

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AUSTRALIA

MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR SAYS MARIJUANA WILL BE LEGALIZED

Melbourne THE AGE in English 8 Dec 78 p 3

[Text]

The use of marijuana was destined to be legalised within "the foreseeable future", a drug dependency workshop was told yesterday.

The legislation would result in mankind having yet another acceptable drug "driving us into the ground".

Dr. Tom Stephens, the Mental Health Authority's director of forensic psychiatry, said he believed society would find legalised marijuana comparable with tobacco and alcohol in its effects on health.

Dr. Stephens was speaking at the opening of a drug dependency workshop being held at La Trobe University yesterday and today. The workshop is being organised by the university's human resource centre.

Dr. Stephens told the workshop it was no longer a question of "if" marijuana would be legalised but "when".

He said as more and more young people attained voting age and exerted political influence it was only a matter of time before marijuana would be legalised.

He said marijuana possessed most of the prerequisites for use in Australia —

the cannabis plant grew easily in most parts of the country, gave a high yield, was cheap and readily available.

But Dr. Stephens said he believed marijuana would be proved to have harmful side effects.

He said it was an irritant drug which adversely affected a person's respiratory tract and vascular system. It was also thought it might cause genetic damage.

Dr. Stephens said marijuana would also have social side effects as did alcohol in causing road accidents, filling hospital beds, breaking up marriages and being involved in crime.

"It's no good saying marijuana would be an alternative," he said.

"Alcohol and tobacco are already driving us into the ground and it (marijuana) will be an addition.

"It will be the interactions which are going to be important. The combination alcohol, cannabis and the motor car is lethal."

FOOTNOTE: The Australian Marijuana Party was recently formed to fight for the legislation of marijuana. It will be contesting the next State and Federal elections.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION HEARS REPORT ON HEROIN DANGERS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 16 Dec 78 p 3

[Text]

The worst effects of heroin abuse are caused by impurities, overdosage and dirty needles, according to a report issued in Adelaide yesterday.

It was prepared for the South Australian Royal Commission into the non-medical use of drugs by Professor D. J. Birkett, professor of clinical pharmacology at the Flinders Medical Centre.

The paper summarises all the current scientific information about morphine and other narcotic drugs, and will help the inquiry decide if such drugs should be given to terminal cancer patients to ease their pain.

The Australian Medical Association has already forcefully told the Commonwealth and NSW Drugs Royal Commissions that heroin should be available for such cases.

Professor Birkett says: "Most of the adverse effects of prolonged opiate abuse are due to self-administration of unknown quantities of illicit drugs of uncertain purity and highly doubtful sterility."

"With widespread parental misuse of opiates and other drugs, reports of every conceivable medical and surgical complication continue to appear."

There was a high incidence of medical defects in babies born to users of the drugs, including seizures, withdrawal symptoms, breathing and bowel failures and abnormal sleeping patterns.

The SA inquiry has been sitting for almost two years.

Copies of Professor Birkett's paper can be obtained from the South Australian Royal Commission at GPO Box 221, Adelaide 5001, at \$2.95.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

STUDY REVEALS STATISTICS ON DRUG ABUSERS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 18 Dec 78 p 2

[Text]

A South Australian study has found that almost two-thirds of people charged with drug offences who had previous drug convictions had been convicted for other offences, particularly when they were juveniles.

The report concludes that the figures may support an argument that police selectively enforce drug laws against known trouble-makers.

The study, produced for the SA Royal Commission into the non-medical use of drugs, was compiled by Mr Warwick Heine, a senior research officer with the Commission, and Mr Stuart Cole, a lecturer in law with the SA Institute of Technology.

The researchers produced the report, based on an analysis of drug offences in South Australia between July, 1974, and June, 1977.

The analysis showed that more than 93 per cent of drug charges in the first half of 1977 involved cannabis.

It showed also that the proportion of offences involving opiates, over the period of the study, had slightly declined.

The study found that males aged 21 or under were more likely to be charged with drug offences than other people.

The study's analysis of the sentencing practices of courts showed that it could be argued that the maximum penalties for many drug offences were unrealistic when compared with the harm they were designed to prevent.

"The Government and Parliament are also insufficiently aware of trends in convictions and sentencing of offenders which may affect policy and legislation," the report said.

"The public has no reliable guide as to the incidence of drug offences nor any complete picture of the penalties imposed on persons convicted."

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

POLICE SEEK WIDER POWERS TO CONTROL DRUGS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Dec 78 p 1

[Text]

NSW police called yesterday for new powers to deal with drug traffickers.

In a submission to the NSW Royal Commission on Drugs police said the right of entry and search without warrant should be granted "for emergency situations."

Police should be allowed to use force if necessary to carry out such a search and not be liable for damage caused, the submission said.

It also called for greater police powers to investigate the financial affairs of suspects.

Figures included in the submission showed that the number of people found possessing illegal drugs in NSW grew from nine in 1959 to 6003 last year.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

CANNABIS USERS TURN TO HEROIN

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 6 Dec 78 p 2

[Text]

A SHORTAGE of cannabis had led drug users to turn to alternatives such as heroin, the Police Commissioner (Mr. Lewis) said yesterday.

In his annual report to State Parliament, Mr. Lewis said the shortages were caused by recent large confiscations of cannabis by State and Federal authorities.

He said there was no doubt that the problem of drug abuse was increasing.

"Criminals have become increasingly aware of the large amounts of money to be made from trafficking in drugs," Mr. Lewis said.

In the last financial year there was a 6 per

cent increase in the number of people prosecuted for drug offences and a 10 per cent increase in the number of offences committed, he said.

A total of 2225 people were prosecuted for 2896 offences during the year.

Mr. Lewis said he believed that the present legislation provided adequate penalties for people convicted of drug offences.

But there had been no improvement during the year in the bail situation.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

FOUR CONVICTED FOR GROWING CANNABIS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Dec 78 p 12

[Text]

Four men were yesterday convicted of being involved in growing a big cannabis crop on a farm near Lake Grace.

The men, all of Italian origin, were convicted in the Beaufort Street Court after a hearing lasting nearly three weeks.

The hearing revealed that the crop contained about 10,000 plants and had a value of up to \$8 million.

Viagio Macri (27), panel beater, of Croydon Street, Dianella; Luigi Fotia (31), labourer, of Harrington Street, Cabramatta, NSW; Bruno Morabito (23), unemployed, of Chester Hill Road, Chester Hill, NSW and Antonio Cusmano (47), former, of Lake Grace, denied the charge against them.

They were charged that between December 24 last year and January 24 at Lake O'Connor, near Lake Grace, they cultivated cannabis, prepared cannabis and pos-

sessed the drug with intent to sell or supply it to another.

COMMITTED

Magistrate J. Simpson committed them for sentence to the District Court on February 6 on the charge of possession with intent to sell or supply.

They were remanded till March 12 on the charge of cultivating and preparing cannabis.

Fotia and Morabito were remanded in custody and Macri and Cusmano were granted bail totalling \$60,000 with similar sureties. Both had to surrender passports and report to police once a week.

The magistrate asked for pre-sentence reports on all the men.

Mr Simpson told the court that he accepted the evidence of the prosecution and its witnesses

and found each man guilty as charged.

He said they were involved in an illegal operation of considerable proportion in a secluded part of WA.

LIAR

There was more than enough evidence that each participated in the operation and each was liable for the same.

A defence that Macri was growing the cannabis for pig food was also not acceptable.

He was satisfied that Morabito was at the farm for no other reason than to participate in an illegal enterprise.

Mr Simpson said he did not believe the evidence of Cusmano, the only one of the men to give evidence.

(Before Mr J. Simpson SM, Sgt P. Seckert prosecuted. Mr A. J. Singleton for Fotia. Mr I. G. Wood for Macri. Mr E. M. Heenan for Cusmano. Mr R. J. Bonehill for Morabito.)

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

SALESMAN GETS 6-YEAR SENTENCE FOR CANNABIS

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 15 Dec 78 page number not given

[Text] Sydney--A van salesman, who transported from a yacht to storage what is probably Australia's largest detected importation of cannabis, yesterday was sentenced to six years' jail.

Judge Torrington, in the District Criminal Court, said it was "grievous" that Lawrence Roy Lamond, 40, of Lake Cathie, New South Wales, a successful businessman and notable sportsman, should have lent himself "to what was obviously a major drug smuggling enterprise." He said: "You only have to look at the pictures of the size of the pantechnicon and your utility laden with sacks to realise what a huge enterprise this was."

Record Haul

He said the 2.73 tonnes of cannabis could have been sold for as low as \$14,500.000.

"But whether one takes \$14,500,000 or \$27 million (narcotics agents estimated the street value to be \$27 million) as the figure, this is still probably the largest quantity of prohibited drugs ever detected in Australia."

Lamond had pleaded guilty in a Petty Sessions Court on July 31 to having had a prohibited import, cannabis, in his possession at Lake Cathie, on June 10.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

MARIHUANA 'MIDDLEMAN' GETS 5-YEAR SENTENCE

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 9 Dec 78 p 10

[Text]

A MAN described as a middleman in a marihuana distribution chain was sentenced in the Criminal Court yesterday to five years' jail.

Mr. Justice Kelly imposed the sentence on Richard Henry Kemister, 28, salesman, of Sydney. Kemister pleaded not guilty to a charge of having had \$1600 obtained from the sale of marihuana.

He also pleaded not guilty to a charge of having had marihuana in his possession for sale or supply.

A jury convicted Kemister of both charges on Thursday night, and Mr. Justice Kelly remanded Kemister to yesterday for sentence.

He sentenced Kemister to five years' jail on the money charge, and to a concurrent three years' jail on the drug possession charge.

Police witnesses said they followed Kemister to a flat in Gold Coast Highway, Palm

Beach, on the night of January 6.

They found \$1700 and 561 grams of marihuana in Kemister's possession.

Detective Senior Constable P. R. Gallagher said Kemister told him he had received five 561 gram lots of marihuana from another man.

Kemister said he sold four of the lots for a total of \$1600 and kept the remaining lot for himself, Gallagher said.

Kemister said in evidence that the \$1600 was part of the proceeds of a shop with which he was connected.

The 561 grams found in his possession was for his own use, and he had not sold any other marihuana, Kemister said.

Mr. Justice Kelly said it appeared from Kemister's admissions, which the jury had accepted, that the \$1600 was the

proceeds of a number of sales of cannabis that night.

"The evidence would indicate that you were acting as a middleman in the chain of distribution of this drug," Mr. Justice Kelly said.

"You were trafficking in it, and this is the type of conduct for which the legislature has provided severe penalties.

"I am prepared to accept that some part of what you had was intended for your own use," Mr. Justice Kelly told Kemister.

"But, in view of the quantity involved, the law presumes that the balance would be disposed of in some way to other people."

Mr. P. J. Cair, of the Crown Law Office, prosecuted. Mr. R. M. Woodham (instructed by J. M. Robinson and Co., as agent for the Public Defender) appeared for Kemister.

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AUSTRALIA

HEROIN SENT THROUGH MAIL

Melbourne THE AGE in English 16 Dec 78 p 14

[Text]

A heroin addict had the drug posted to him from Malaysia, concealed in an envelope and a magazine, the County Court was told yesterday.

Judge Hogg sentenced Ooi Peng Seu to 12 months' jail and suspended the sentence, releasing him on a \$500 two year recognisance to attend Pleasant View Assessment Centre for treatment.

Ooi, 23, cook, of Exallbur Avenue, Glen Waverley, pleaded guilty to two counts of having knowingly been concerned with the importation of heroin in September this year.

Mr. P. F. McDermott, for Ooi, told Judge Hogg Ooi was a Malaysian national who had married in Australia in 1976. A short time later the marriage broke up and Ooi became depressed and started using heroin.

Ooi became addicted to heroin.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

THREE CHARGED WITH TRAFFICKING MOVED TO DETENTION CENTER

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 30 Dec 78 p 24

[Text]

BANGKOK, Friday. — Three Australians charged with heroin trafficking earlier this year have been transferred from the crowded Lard Yao prison to a temporary detention centre for foreign drug suspects.

Police said the three Australians had been removed from Lard Yao to await final investigations after doctors found no evidence that they were drug addicts.

Paul Cecil Hayward, a Newtown first-grade Rugby League player, Warren Edward Fellows and William Sinclair still face summary punishment, and possible death sentences, under Article 27 of the interim Constitution.

The three are being investigated under Article 27, which allows the Prime Minister to apply summary punishment, including death, against certain criminals without trial. The three were arrested on October 11 in connection with the seizure of 8.4kg of heroin.

Police said they expected to submit the final reports on the case to the Prime Minister, Kriangsak Chomanan, by the end of January.

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AUSTRALIA

HEROIN SUSPECT HELD IN LEG IRONS

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 23 Dec 78 p 1

[Text]

BANGKOK. — A young Australian will spend Christmas Day in heavy leg irons at the Bangkok Criminal Court facing a serious drug charge.

Owen Windham Jones, 24, a gemstone dealer from Adelaide, will then make his first court appearance since his arrest in Bangkok a month ago.

He is charged with heroin trafficking.

Police allege they found more than one kilogram of No. 4 heroin — the purest grade — in his baggage.

There will be Christmas carols and some special food for three Sydney men waiting trial for alleged heroin trafficking.

Footballer Paul Hayward, hairdresser Warren Fellow and bar owner William Sinclair will hear carols from choirs of Bangkok's Christian churches.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

EIGHT CHARGED AS RESULT OF DRUG RAIDS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 1 Jan 79 p 3

[Text]

Police have seized drugs with a street value of about \$70,000 in a series of 12 raids in Barwon Heads, Torquay, Airey's Inlet and Steglitz in the past six days.

A total of eight people have been charged and another three were expected to be charged late last night.

The raids began on December 26 when police found six capsules of hash oil at Barwon Heads. A woman, 19, and two men aged 22 and 23, were charged.

The next day police found a little more than four kilograms of marijuana at Airey's Inlet.

The plants, with an estimated street value of about \$5000, were in a tomato patch.

A married couple, both aged 27, from Airey's Inlet, were charged with possessing, smoking and preparing marijuana.

In another raid on the same day at Torquay another \$800 worth of hash oil was seized. A man aged 28 was charged.

The biggest haul was on December 28 when about 60 grams of uncut heroin were found during a raid on a motel.

Street value of the drugs was estimated at \$60,000.

Two men aged 27 and 29

were charged with importing and trafficking.

Another person was charged with smoking and possessing hashish following a raid at Torquay on December 29.

Yesterday police raided a plantation near the former mining town of Steglitz, in the Brisbane Ranges, and found 137 marijuana plants with a street value of about \$900.

Police last night expected to charge three men aged 21, 22, and 26, all from Altona.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

MAN GETS LIFE UNDER NARCOTIC DRUGS LAW

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 11 Jan 79 pp 1, 4 BK

[Text] Rangoon, 10 Jan--The Pabedan Township Court (2) chaired by U Tha Oo with U Maung Sein and U San Myint as members today sentenced Soe Nyunt (38) to 10 years' imprisonment on conviction under Section 6(b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law and to life imprisonment on conviction under Sections 10(b) and 11(sale) (abetment of offence) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

The sentences are to be served concurrently.

In passing judgment the Court observed that while activities denouncing and suppressing narcotic drug abuse were being carried out in the whole country as a national task the accused was apprehended while going about in the city with such a big quantity of narcotic drugs for selling them. For this reason the accused had to be given these penalties.

Law enforcement authorities seized 51 penicillin bottles each containing five grams of heroin valued at K 25,500 from Soe Nyunt at the corner of Maha Bandoola and 32nd Streets. He was carrying the heroin bottles in a Horlicks bottle wrapped with a brown paper bag.

He was accordingly arrested and sent up for trial before Pabedan Township Court.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

HEROIN SHIPMENT SEIZED IN MANDALAY

Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 12 Jan 79 p 7 BK

[Text] Mandalay, 11 Jan--Three persons transporting over 150,000 kyats worth of heroin were arrested at the junction of 63d and 30th streets in Mandalay's New C.P. Line ward. Warrant Officer I Ye Myint, Sergeant Maung Maung Soe and Sergeant Maung Law of Intelligence Squad No 1 made the arrests.

Acting on a tipoff that a large amount of heroin was being transported from Taunggyi to Mandalay, the commander of Intelligence Squad No 1 instructed Warrant Officer I Ye Myint and his party to intercept the shipment. Accordingly, at 0700 on 7 January, the intelligence party waited at the junction of 63d and 30th streets. When a suspicious-looking jeep No 11/Mala 78-803 approached the place, the party conducted a search and found four big packages of heroin, worth over 150,000 kyats, hidden in a false panel of the jeep's gas tank.

The three persons on the jeep carrying the heroin were Pi Ywe, alias Maung Maung, 26, of Mandalay's New C.P. Line ward; Pi Shin, alias San Aye, 25, of Mandalay's Shwehlan ward No 9; and Shwe Yu, 24, of Tangyan.

Police station No 3 has filed charges against the three men under Sections 6.B and 14.B of the narcotic drugs law and has seized the jeep.

CS0: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM DEALERS ARRESTED IN PINLAUNG--Pinlaung, 4 Jan--Acting on information received that opium is being sold, Pinlaung township police commander U Ba Kaung, Subinspector U Maung Maung Aye and Corporal U Khin Maung, together with witnesses, yesterday raided the residence of Maung Sar in Pinlaung's Hsaungke village. Maung Sar, the houseowner who was selling opium, and buyers from Taungdwingyi township--Ko Aung Hlaing, Ko Aye Maung and Ma Nwe--were found together with 3.50 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] of raw opium. They have been charged under Sections 6.B and 10.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law by the police. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 14 Jan 79 p 6 BK]

POLICE, PEASANTS DESTROY PLANTS--Okpo, 5 Jan--On 28 December, over 100 people--soldiers, policemen and working people--led by Okpo township party unit and council representatives and Maj Tin Aye, rear base commander of the 35th Infantry Regiment, searched for marihuana plants in the vicinity of the upper reaches of Delaw River on Pegu mountain range and destroyed more than 20,000 marihuana plants on 7 acres of land in forestry block No 103. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 10 Jan 79 p 4 BK]

ARRESTS IN LATHA, MINGALA--Rangoon, 9 Jan--Policemen of Latha township, who have been checking on heroin users since 2 January, arrested 17 persons--eight addicts and nine pushers and persons who were found carrying heroin. Similarly, 16 persons--15 addicts and one person who was found carrying heroin--were arrested in Mingala Taungnyunt township today. Eight addicts and five pushers and persons who had heroin in their possession were arrested in Lanmadaw township. On the same day, authorities arrested three addicts and three pushers and persons who had heroin in their possession in Kyauktaga township and one addict and one pusher in Pabedan township. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 10 Jan 79 p 5 BK]

TWO HEROIN ARRESTS--Rangoon, 9 Jan--Personnel of the Drugs Suppression Unit of Rangoon Division People's Police Force's Crime Prevention Squad arrested Khin Maung Myo of Lanmadaw and Tan Sai Suang, alias Maung Maw, along with a package of heroin worth 400 kyats at 1000 yesterday under

Sections 6 (B), 10 (B), 11 and 14 (D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. Personnel of the Drugs Suppression Unit also arrested San Kyaw of Henzada Road, Hlaing Township at the corner of 21st Street and Mahabandoola Road along with a package of heroin worth 25 kyats. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 10 Jan 79 p 6 BK]

DRUG ARRESTS--Rangoon, 9 Jan--Action was taken against 44 persons--37 addicts, 4 pushers and 3 persons who had heroin in their possession--in Pabedan township between 2 and 9 January which is the Narcotic Drugs Prevention Week. Action was also taken against five persons in Thigangyun township, one in Lanmadaw township, three in Kyauktada township and one in Kamayut township. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 10 Jan 79 p 7 BK]

HEROIN PACKAGE BRINGS ARREST--Rangoon, 9 Jan--Personnel of the Narcotic Drugs Suppression Unit of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force's Crime Prevention Squad arrested at 1400 yesterday 30-year-old Hla Thein of Lewis Street, 18-year-old Khin Maung Shwe of Bogale Market Road, and 31-year-old Ma Muni of Thingangyun, along with a package of heroin worth 25 kyats and 82 kyats in cash, under Sections 6 (B), 10 (B), 11 and 14 (D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 10 Jan 79 p 7 BK]

THREE SENTENCED--Mandalay, 11 Jan--The Mandalay North-East Township Court No 1 chaired by U Khin Maung today sentenced three young men to seven years' imprisonment each on conviction under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The three young men are Paintar alias Khin Win (29), Than Win (21) and Tun Kyi (18) of Kinsanamahi Ward, Mandalay. The case was that a police party led by Station Officer U Myint Oo of the No 8 Police Station raided the house at No 626, Kinsanamahi Ward at 10 pm on 26 February 1977 and found 12 packets of heroin valued at K 10 each from the above-mentioned trio. They were accordingly arrested and sent up for trial before the Township Court. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 17 Jan 79 p 1 BK]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

TRUCKLOAD OF HASHISH--Peshawar, N.W. Pakistan, Jan 25 (AFP)--Pakistani customs authorities seized more than 5,000 kilograms of hashish near here today, it was officially announced. The hashish was in a truck bound for the port city of Karachi in the south, a favourite point for drug traffickers to smuggle narcotics out of the country. The announcement said two persons including the driver of the truck had been arrested. [Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 25 Jan 79 BK]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

ASEAN NARCOTICS EXPERTS MEET IN JAKARTA

Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 15 Nov 78 p 2

[Excerpts] Drug abuse is a challenge which confronts our world at the present time; this problem must be solved and eliminated. Minister coordinator of public welfare General Surono said this at the opening of the Third Conference of ASEAN Narcotics Experts yesterday at the Hotel Kartika Chandra in Jakarta.

This problem is very important, since drug abuse can harm the younger generation, and can damage development in the ASEAN nations. Since we are aware of the dangers which can arise from drug abuse, it is proper that we take the following steps to protect ourselves: first, to smash illegal narcotics traffic by destroying their networks in ASEAN nations. In addition, we must prevent the spread of narcotics to other nations. We must increase control of, and take steps to deal with sale and use of narcotics. Second, we must provide information to the younger generation and their parents about the dangers of narcotics. Third, we must give attention to victims of drug abuse, so that they can return to normal life. Fourth, we must eliminate illegal distribution and commerce in narcotics. Thus spoke General Surono, who expects the meeting to be of great benefit, not only for ASEAN, but for the world, in general.

Meanwhile, Gen Rustamadji Soetopo, deputy chief of the Coordinating Board for the Implementation of Presidential Instruction No 6 of 1971, reading a welcoming statement by the board chief, Gen Yogo Sugomo, said the narcotics problem in Indonesia is relatively small, compared with other nations. However, if it is not dealt with, the problem can become epidemic. It is obvious that eradicating narcotics abuse will not be easy, but we must do it.

9197
CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

NARCOTICS COURSE GIVEN FOR POLICE, CUSTOMS PERSONNEL

Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 18 Nov 78 p 6

[Text] Police Brig Gen J. F. R. Montolau, chief of Police Region II, confirmed that North Sumatra is a main entrance for opium from the "Golden Triangle," which means it is a key area for narcotics traffic. To overcome this problem will require unity, and actions by several authorities, including Customs, Immigration, and the police, in close cooperation.

General Montolau made these statements at the close of the Intensive Narcotics Research Course held recently in the Order and Security Auditorium of Police Region II.

The general added that the purpose of the course was to increase knowledge and skills in detecting crime, and to serve as a means of contact between Customs and the police.

He concluded his speech by thanking the MABAK instruction team which had worked with the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the course participants, who were returning to normal duties.

The Intensive Narcotics Research Course, which lasted for 4 days, was attended by 33 police and Customs personnel. The closing ceremony was also attended by the chief of Customs Territorial Office I, Medan; the American consul in Medan; the general staff of Police Region II, and all of the instructors. General Montolau took the opportunity to give souvenirs to the instructors.

9197
CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURES--The police have rounded up 231 opium addicts and traffickers and seized tens of kilograms of the substance and other narcotics in a series of raids launched since early September 1978, police said, Tuesday. Named "Badi II/Harum Manis," the operations have been launched in ten provinces--Aceh, North Sumatra, Riau, South Sumatra, Jakarta, West Java, Central Java, East Java, West Kalimantan and Nusatenggara, where narcotics addicts and traffickers were allegedly rife. Six of those arrested are foreigners--two Chinese, two Australians, a New Zealander and a French. The Riau police picked up the most arresting 72 suspects and seized over 580 mgr of morphine and opium followed by the Jakarta police with an arrest of 31 suspects seizing over 11 kilograms of opium. Antara. [Text] [Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 3 Jan 79 p 1 BK]

MORPHINE CONFISCATED--The Police Reserve Unit, Municipal Command 86, Bandung, seized 100 packages of pure morphine powder at a house in Jl Kacapiring, Bandung, according to a MERDEKA correspondent. The morphine, worth 200,000 rupiah, was under a mattress and a chair. Along with the morphine, two distributors, Har and Wa, and the house's owner, Na, are being held for further investigation. Another person is still being sought. The results of the investigation indicate that Har, a resident of Jakarta, brought the morphine to Bandung; Wa and Na are distributors in the area surrounding Bandung. According to them, it is no longer possible to make transactions in Bandung, proper. Two months ago, they sold 215 packets of morphine worth 300,000 rupiah. Based on this information, the Police Reserve Unit is searching toward Jakarta. [Excerpt] [Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 3 Nov 78 p 6] 9197

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURES IN 1978--Tokyo, 24 Jan--Narcotics and stimulant drugs seized in the country last year reached a postwar high, the National Police Agency (NPA) noted in a report issued Wednesday. Police questioned 17,740 persons in a total of 29,860 cases involving stimulants in 1978, up 22.8 percent and 25.6 percent, respectively, from the previous year, the report said. Police confiscated 9.9 kilograms of powdered stimulants valued at 29.8 billion yen at the black market, a postwar record, it said. The seized amount of liquid stimulants totaled 450,000 cc last year, or 460 times the amount seized a year ago, according to the report. This indicated the use of "white powder" was more widespread than in the 1940s when a stimulant known as Philopon had attracted the people's fancy, NPA said. Police also grilled 1,224 persons for taking narcotics in a total 1,691 cases last year, and a total of 1,070 persons were questioned in 1,501 marijuana-related cases, up 41 percent. A rise in the addiction to drugs has been responsible for increased traffic accidents, theft and other crimes, NPA said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 24 Jan 79 OW]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

MINISTRY TO FORM ANTIDRUG ABUSE COUNCIL

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Jan 79 p 11 BK

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — The Federal Territory Ministry plans to form an action council to contain drug abuse.

The Ministry's Parliamentary Secretary, Encik Abdullah Haji Ahmad, hoped that such a step would be a model to other Ministries and departments in the country.

Only total involvement of various levels of the community would ensure effective results in the fight against the drug menace.

Haunts

Encik Abdullah said this after meeting a six-man delegation from Umno's anti-drug unit, Pemadam and Raden Suratman, a dukun specialising in curing addicts.

The leader of the delegation, Raden Supathan, who heads Umno's special drug unit, briefed

Encik Abdullah on the drug problem.

Raden Supathan urged that Pemadam be absorbed into the Federal Territory Ministry to enable the association to have more executive powers.

Raden Supathan said drug menace in the Federal Territory was the most serious in the country.

From the number of cases referred to the Welfare Department since 1975 till last year, 1,307 were in the Federal Territory, 1,258 in Perak and 1,040 in Selangor.

The Kampung Baru and Chow Kit Road areas were the favourite haunts of drug addicts from all over the country, he said.

Raden Supathan called on the Government to look at the problem seriously.

He felt that each Government department should set up its own control units.

He also wanted Pemadam to be represented in the various committees or bodies set up to combat drug-abuse. — Bernama.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PARTIES URGED TO SET UP ANTIDRUG UNITS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Jan 79 p 5

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Component partners of the National Front were today urged to set up their own anti-drug units.

Haji Idris Ibrahim, MP for Setapak, told the *New Straits Times* that Umno had taken the initiative by appointing Raden Supathan as its special officer for drugs in the party's effort to eradicate the problem not only among its members but the country as a whole.

"This should be an example to be followed by other component parties in the National Front."

"The drug problem in the country is very serious. These parties can no longer afford to just express their support for the Government in eradicating the problem."

"They should be more positive in helping the Government in its efforts. Mere support through words is not enough."

"In the case of Raden Supathan, he is all alone in combatting the problem. Other parties should come forward and have someone to work hand-in-hand with him to ensure that efforts to

eradicate drug abuse is carried out more effectively," he said.

He said the efforts should not be the burden of the authorities alone. The people, especially the members of the component parties, should play their part, too.

Haji Idris's views were shared by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister's Department, Encik Shahrir Abdul Samad, who said that the participation of all component partners of the National Front was vital if the country was to be cleaned of drug abuse.

He added that the component parties need not set up a special drug unit in their respective parties if they did not want to.

"But they should encourage their members to join voluntary organisations involved in eradicating the problem, such as Pemadam."

"Their involvement should be like the involvement experienced in the Rukun Tetangga scheme."

"The Rukun Tetangga scheme is successful because it has received the support of all levels of the public."

"Pemadam can also be successful if it receives the same support," he said.

CSO: 5 100

MALAYSIA

POOR RESPONSE TO SURVEY ON TEACHER-ADDICTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Jan 79 p 9

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. -- The response from schools to the Education Ministry's nation-wide survey to detect drug addiction among teachers and other school staff has been "very poor", according to a Ministry source.

Schools were sent a circular in July last year, asking heads for information on drug-

addiction among the staff.

The aim of the survey was to help teachers and other school staff on drugs to get rid of the habit before it became serious.

The ministry had emphasised that the survey was aimed not at penalising anyone, but at helping those in need of help.

A ministry spokesman said today that very few schools

had provided the data required.

School heads had been asked to furnish details of teachers who had been treated for addiction, those under rehabilitation and those who were "prone to drug addiction".

Teachers were not given any forms to fill.

Asked the reason for the poor response, the spokesman replied that it was too early to say.

However, some principals contacted today said it was difficult to obtain the necessary information.

"We are afraid that a lot of misunderstanding will arise if we ask a teacher whether he is a drug addict," said one principal.

The information was to be given voluntarily.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

REGIONAL NARCOTICS CONFERENCE HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR

Detour Method of Smuggling

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Jan 79 p 9

[Article by James Ritchie]

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — International drug traffickers are making "detours" via capitals and airports which are not regarded as sources of heroin, to smuggle narcotics into the United States.

US Ambassador Mr. Robert Miller said this today when he opened a three-day East Asian Regional Narcotics Conference attended by 53 participants from US embassies in East Asia and the Pacific area.

The detour method of drug smuggling was one of the more successful ways by which heroin found its way into the US and other nations on the look-out for incoming drugs.

Mr. Miller said the method made it very difficult for authorities to decide which incoming passengers should be searched.

"For example, many Asians are used as couriers into the US. With the large number of legitimate visitors to Hawaii and the western United States from East Asia, it is not practical from an economic or tourist standpoint to search large numbers of them.

"In East Asia too, heroin in large quantities manages to leave the area and enter the ports of Europe, Australia and North America.

"Our International Narcotics Control programme is designed to assist other governments in developing better methods of intercepting the flow of illegal drugs," he said.

Another area of essential regional co-operation was in preventing the shift of illegal drugs production once success was achieved in one country, Mr. Miller said.

Poppy crops

As an example, he said, some progress had been made in Thailand and Burma, where farmers were encouraged to switch from cultivating the opium poppy to other economically viable crops and there was a possibility that they would shift to other crops too.

If this occurred, it was quite possible that some other country in the region could become an opium production

centre.

"Progress in Thailand and Burma in crop substitution could easily be offset by increased poppy cultivation in Laos," Mr. Miller said.

Regional co-operation was important in sharing experiences on dealing with the basic underlying causes of the problem.

Mr. Miller said he was pleased that the Asean nations had increased their co-operation in narcotics control.

"For some time these countries, individually, had been greatly concerned about the growing problem of drug abuse in their societies.

"Some discovered their problem sooner than others, but all have now come to realise that heroin and other illegal drugs are consumed in South East Asia as well as Europe and North America."

"In response, they have not only increased national programmes aimed at reducing narcotics abuse and trafficking of illegal drugs, but they have also reached out for assistance and technical advice from centres outside the region."

Mr. Miller said the US was willing to provide more assistance to Asean in all aspects of narcotics control.

To support in the enforcement field, the US had just begun a programme of assistance to a major demand reduction project in Malaysia.

"Heroin is a growing problem for Malaysia, one of which the Government is facing seriously and taking vigorous steps to resolve."

"Malaysia is also a transit country of some importance for heroin grown in the Golden Triangle and shipped throughout the world."

The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control had active projects in Thailand and Burma and would spend several million dollars in that area, he added.

"However, when we look at the impact that South East Asian heroin is having on Europe, we can only wonder why

those countries are not directing more assistance to South East Asia in Narcotics Control."

"Although Japan does not have a serious heroin addiction problem and does not at present suffer directly from the illegal drug trade from South East Asia, we believe that the government of Japan should stay alert to changes in regional trafficking patterns and consider assisting countries in this region in narcotics control," Mr. Miller said.

Conference Demonstrates U.S. Commitment

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Jan79 p 11

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — The United States ambassador to Malaysia, Mr Robert H. Miller today reiterated that his Government is prepared to work closely with Asean countries on drug abuse control.

Speaking at the closing of the East Asian narcotics conference here, Mr Miller said the United States Government had already worked out one project. He said the project on Drug Abuse Education was set to begin later this year in Manila.

Mr Miller added: "We are open to further suggestions from Asean Governments on future co-operation on the control of drug abuse."

Major points

He said his Government appreciated the time taken by the Malaysian Government officials to meet delegates attending the conference.

"The Malaysian officials shared their perspectives on our mutual problems in this area and such contact would continue," he said.

He said the conference was a concrete demonstration to the countries of the region of the continuing American commitment which influences directly their efforts to rid themselves of the plague of drug abuse.

Mr Miller said the conference had been a

very valuable and satisfying experience for all those associated with narcotics control.

He told the delegates that he was impressed that the conference prompted an editorial in the New Straits Times today.

Mr Miller said one of the major points which emerged from the conference was the key position of Burma in regional narcotics matters.

"It is gratifying to hear of new and encouraging developments from that country," he added.

Regional Effort Is Essential

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Jan 79 p 10

[Editorial]

[Text]

There may be a politely muted point in the choice by U.S. narcotics control agencies of Malaysia as a conference site. Over the past two years both Bangkok and Singapore have had some success in controlling the drug traffic. But during the same period Malaysian ports and airports have become major transshipment points to Western markets, and, as a result, the number of addicts in Malaysia has continued to increase. It may be that the flood breaks through at the weakest point of the dike or that the drug traffic is a many headed hydra — if its head is chopped in Singapore it pops up in Johore; blocked in Bangkok it reroutes through the south to Penang. But whatever the simile, the narcotics trade is organized on a regional basis by highly professional networks and will always range across borders in its search for the unguarded coastline, the ill-equipped airport or the insecure port. A regional effort is essential to combat the trade. A beginning has been made with regular exchanges of information between Asean agencies. If the U.S. can instruct the Asean states in sophisticated techniques of detection such help would be more than welcome. It is significant that last year's biggest drug haul, made at Subang Airport in December, was the result of coordination between the narcotics agencies of Singapore and Malaysia and the trained nose of a dog presented by the U.S.

Malaysia has had some success in rehabilitation — and has three American experts currently training 120 social workers in rehabilitation techniques. But the bureaucracy has been typically divided and slow-moving in confronting the drug threat. There is still insufficient coordination between Police, Customs, the Central Narcotics Bureau, and the various port and airport administrations; the Bureau itself is grossly understaffed; and the new multi-million airport in Penang lacks, according to a recent statement, proper facilities for checking luggage.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS REPORTED

Sarawak Police List 359 Addicts

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 6 Jan 79 p 4

[Excerpt]

KUCHING. — Growing concern over drug addiction is underlined by official figures which show that Sarawak police now have files on 359 addicts.

As well, last year saw 69 people arrested either for drug possession or taking drugs, said Encik Ramsay Jitam, the state's new Deputy Police Commissioner.

He gave the figures during a New Year broadcast over Radio Malaysia on behalf of Com-

missioner Encik Mior Mohammad Jaafar. It included an appeal for public help in telling the police about drug incidents.

Singapore Bail Jumper Caught

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Jan 79 p 11

[Text]

SINGAPORE, Sun. — Malaysian Lim Cheng Guan, 61, at large for the past four months after jumping bail, was brought to court on a warrant of arrest yesterday morning — still in his pyjamas.

Arrested by the Malaysian Police in Klang after being tipped off by friends of his bailor, Lim was escorted by police and Customs officers on a train back to Singapore late last night.

As a result of Lim's disappearance just before his trial was to begin on July 18, undertaker Ang See Tong,

who stood bail, was ordered to pay a penalty of \$5,000 by a district judge on Friday.

Mr. Ang, who stood to lose the \$25,000 and 20 of his coffins he had used to stand surety with, intensified efforts to trace Lim, resulting in his arrest on Christmas Eve.

Yesterday, Lim did not give a plea when arraigned on the opium-trafficking charge he first faced 17 months ago. Then, he had claimed trial to trafficking in 25.65 kgs of opium worth \$28,000 at the Woodlands Customs checkpoint on Oct. 23, last year.

Morphine Trial in Brunei

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 6 Jan 79 p 32

[Text]

KUALA BELAIT, ---
A magistrate has voiced concern about what he says is the "noticeable increase" of hard drug offences in the Belait District.

Mr Kong Seng Kwong was dealing with a case in which a 22-year-old man was before him for morphine consumption.

Chong Yun San, unemployed, of Seria, was ordered to pay a \$1500 fine. And he was also sentenced to two months in the Bandar Seri Begawan Hospital drug addiction unit to help him kick the habit.

The court heard that last August 6 police visited a house in Jalan Jerambak, Seria, after being given a tip-off.

They found Chong in a dizzy condition and he was suspected of having taken drugs. He was taken

to hospital for a urine test which proved positive.

Chong said he was willing to undergo medical observation; he said he was married and although without a job had a wife to support.

Mr Kong said the authorities in Brunei had recognised the danger caused by drug abuse and

had passed a tough misuse of drug enactment.

He said drug abusers had cause to "steal, rob and prostitute themselves."

Turning to the increase in local drug offences, he said the action he would take would reflect his experience with anti-drug addiction measures.

CS0: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RELEASES DRUG IDENTIFICATION KIT

Wellington EVENING POST in English 16 Dec 78 p 12

[Text]

Christchurch anti-drug campaigner Ray Comfort with the latest weapon in his fight to stamp out drug use — an identification kit.

Mr Comfort, the director of the Christchurch Drug Education Centre, has sold the kits to 70 secondary schools and for police stations.

He said the kits were being made by reformed drug users, and the profits were being used to improve drug education.

"There's a tremendous lack of facilities for parents wanting advice on drugs, and at the moment literature on the subject is virtually non-existent.

"I'd like to see these kits in every local police station, so that people can go and have a look."

Mr Comfort who has written two books on drug abuse, was in Wellington this week to promote a third book entitled "My Friends Are Living."

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

FIFTH LARGEST HEROIN SEIZURE NETS THREE SUSPECTS

Wellington EVENING POST in English 21 Dec 78 p 13

[Text]

WANGANUI, Dec 20 (PA). — Three men face a Supreme Court trial in Wanganui in February charged with possessing heroin for supply, following what police said was the fifth largest seizure of the drug in the country.

The three, who pleaded not guilty after a depositions hearing in the Magistrate's Court today, were remanded in custody until February 19 for trial.

The crown prosecutor, Mr F F Latham, said a police operation in November in Rata and Bulls seized a total of 114.57 grams of heroin from three men.

This was the fifth largest seizure of the drug by police, he said.

Gregory Robert Benefield, 23, unemployed, of Raumati South, and David James McNabb, 24, unemployed, Levin, are each charged with possessing 17.5 grams of heroin for supply at Speedy Road, near Bulls, on November 16.

Mafeking Gordon Clayton, 29, sickness beneficiary, of Rata, is charged with possessing 97.07 grams of heroin for supply on November 17 and with possessing the haul found at Bulls the previous day.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

FIVE HOSPITALIZED AFTER TAKING DMA

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 20 Dec 78 p 3

[Text]

PA Auckland

Five persons have been admitted to the Auckland Hospital suffering from convulsions and hallucinations after taking a synthetic drug known as DMA.

Drug squad detectives are interviewing hospital authorities and victims of the drug.

Detectives say the drug, recently classified as a class A control drug, appeared to have been sold in "tah" lots on sheets of green blotting paper.

They say the drug has been circulating in Auckland since the David Bowie concert on December 2.

The police have made several seizures of the drug throughout New Zealand in the last fortnight.

DMA is described as a cousin to LSD but having less predictable results when taken.

The five admitted to hospital within the last 10 days are reported to have been discharging themselves.

Some have been violent and threatened hospital staff.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

INFORMANTS SAY DRUG RAIDS INEFFECTIVE

Wellington EVENING POST in English 11 Dec 78 p 8

[Text]

AUCKLAND, Dec 10 (PA).—Police drug squads raids are often badly timed, poorly executed, and consistently missing big amounts of narcotics.

This claim comes from several "NZ Herald" informants who have intimate knowledge of the drugs scene — two of them Auckland drugs dealers.

They say the drug squad often raids addresses late at night or in the early morning when dealers and users have well and truly secreted their drugs before going to sleep, knowing they will be subject to a late night or early morning raid.

Dogs

One informant said the police drug dogs had regularly walked over drugs buried in gardens, missing large amounts of narcotics.

A common ploy of addicts is to spray the drugs with fly spray before burying them, which disorients the dog, he claims.

"You have got to live with these people to know what they get up to in order to hide their dope," one of the informants said.

"While the fuzz are getting some regular results from their raids they are still missing a hell of a lot. They are not as smart as they think when it comes to raids. In fact, they are pretty useless."

Several of the "Herald" informants say the police are getting a "low grade" of information about what is happening in the drug world in Auckland.

"The cops are busting people with half an ounce or a third of an ounce of 'smack.' They are users, irrational, liars, and scared. They don't know what is going on about them," one of the dealers said.

The informants gave the "Herald" seven instances, including the names and addresses of those being raided as well as the police effecting the raid, where large amounts of drugs have been missed.

Hard drugs of various sorts, large quantities of "smoking gear," needles, and syringes have been missed in abundance, the informants say.

The head of the Auckland Central CIB drug squad, Detective Senior Sergeant B R

Hunter, said the names, addresses, and details supplied by the "Herald" were known to the drug squad.

Commenting on the claims relating to the success of drug squad raids, he said this could only be judged from the police point of view on what was found.

"It is extremely difficult to put a percentage on successful raids in terms of whether we got everything that there was to get," he said. "I would say we would get everything in about nine out of 10 heroin raids."

That claim was referred to as "absolute nonsense" by the "Herald" informants.

Mr Hunter said it was no doubt true that drugs were missed on raids purely because of the sheer effort involved in doing a thorough search.

It would take five men all day to thoroughly search an average-sized house.

The question of timing in drug raids was dependent on the circumstances, he said, and often it was necessary to do them late in the night or early in the morning.

Forced

Mr Hunter said it was not necessarily advantageous for the police to do the raids at those times, but they were often forced to.

Drugs dogs played a supportive role to the squad members, he said, and the squad did not rely on them to find drugs.

The success of the drug squad raids, no doubt complementary with the growing drugs usage, was that at September last year 493 grams of heroin was seized by police throughout the country.

For the equivalent period this year the seizures had trebled to more than 1600 grams.

"Heroin with a street value of more than \$1,000,000 has been seized in the Auckland area this year," said Mr Hunter.

"We have seized about 21 pounds in two major operations in the past few months."

On the question of information police got about drugs, Mr Hunter said it all had to be evaluated and he was certain it was not all "low grade" as suggested.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

CANNABIS CHARGES BRING 3-YEAR SENTENCE

Wellington EVENING POST in English 13 Dec 78 p 23

[Text]

A sentence of three years' jail was imposed by Mr Justice Ongley in the Supreme Court yesterday on Michael Alexander Kelly, 32, company director, in respect of two cannabis charges.

Kelly had been found guilty by a jury of possession of cannabis resin for purposes of supply and possession of cannabis plant for purposes of supply.

On behalf of Kelly, Mr P A Williams said the amount of cannabis involved was valued by the police at around \$3000, so that it was by no means a major drug case.

His Honour remarked that the probation report showed Kelly had been at odds with the law since he was 18. He had been involved in serious crime in the past, graduating to a sentence of six years jail for aggravated robbery in 1972.

Since his release from that he had been convicted on three charges of possessing controlled drugs, but none of them as serious as the present ones.

The deterrent effect of sentence now outweighed other considerations, his Honour said.

Mr C H Toogood appeared for the Crown.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

SEVEN REMANDED IN TAURANGA DRUG RAID

Wellington EVENING POST in English 13 Dec 78 p 20

[Text]

TAURANGA, Dec 12 (PA). — Seven people appeared in the Magistrate's Court today as a result of a drug raid in Mount Maunganui last Wednesday.

A 24-year-old Takapuna man was remanded in custody until January 24 for the taking of depositions on a charge of possessing heroin for supply.

Mr D B Wilson, SM, granted the man suppression of name.

Glenn Douglas Lloyd, 19, a Mount Maunganui market gardener, was convicted on a charge of possessing heroin and remanded on bail of \$1000 until next Tuesday for a probation officer's report and sentence.

Lloyd had admitted the charge.

Sergeant R E Lynch said eight packets of heroin were found when a search warrant was executed on Lloyd's address.

A 29-year-old electrician, Ross William Lockyer, of Papamoa, was fined \$200 for

cultivating cannabis, \$75 for possessing cannabis seeds, and \$75 for possessing a pipe for the commission of an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Lockyer had admitted all the charges.

Sergeant Lynch said about 80 cannabis plants and 289 cannabis seeds were found when Lockyer's address was searched. A number of pipes and other items for smoking cannabis were also found.

Counsel, Mr P F Gorringe, said many of the cannabis seeds in Lockyer's possession were too old to germinate.

Paul Gordon Fendley, 22, board fixer, of Tauranga, was fined \$200 on a charge of cultivating cannabis. He had admitted the charge.

About 40 cannabis plants were found growing in plan-

ting pots at Fendley's address, Sergeant Lynch said.

A \$200 fine was imposed on Bertram France, 24, a Mount Maunganui meat cutter, who admitted cultivating cannabis.

Sergeant Lynch said seven cannabis seedlings were found growing on the kitchen windowsill at Fendley's address.

A 27-year-old Mount Maunganui woman, who was granted suppression of name, entered no plea to a charge of possessing cannabis extract. She was remanded on bail of \$500 until January 23.

A Mount Maunganui housewife, who was also granted suppression of name, denied possessing needles and syringes for the commission of an offence against the Misuse of Drugs Act. She was remanded on bail of \$1000 until January 23 for a defended hearing.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

SERIOUS OVERDOSES REPORTED FROM DMA

Wellington EVENING POST in English 22 Dec 78 p 13

[Text]

SOME of the people taking an LSD-style drug new to New Zealand are believed to have suffered serious overdose symptoms through mistakenly taking four times the normal dose.

The drug, which has been found by police and Customs officers in Auckland, Wellington, and other centres over the past three months, is a synthetic hallucinatory drug which might have been introduced in an attempt to get around the law.

Reports from Auckland this week referred to it as DMA or DMT, but police in Wellington believe its users are just calling it "acid," their slang for LSD.

Names

Its chemical name is 4-bromo-2, 5-dimethoxyamphetamine.

"It is very similar to LSD in its effects," the co-ordinator of the National Drug Intelligence Bureau, Detective Senior Sergeant Paul Fitzharris, said in Wellington yesterday.

"It comes in sheets, a piece of plastic film containing a

small piece of white absorbent paper," he said.

It is overlaid with a black or green mosaic pattern, and the sheets are divided into approximately 1cm squares which are torn off "like a stamp."

"One of the problems we're aware of, is that each little square is four doses," Mr Fitzharris said.

"They meant to take one quarter, but a lot think they have got only one dose, which could lead to an overdose."

Asked if this had happened, he said he understood it had but could not be sure.

With an ordinary dose, "from what we can tell some of the hallucinations are fairly severe and they become quite uncontrollable," Mr Fitzharris said.

"People can have fairly bad experiences with the drug rather than a pleasurable thing."

The effects would be even

worse with four doses at once. The drug comes from the United States.

"Most of our seizures have been through the mail, and some has been found on passengers entering New Zealand by airports," Mr Fitzharris said.

It had been found in Wellington, Christchurch, Nelson, Palmerston North, Auckland, and Whangarei.

Three drug overdose cases treated at Auckland Hospital last weekend are thought to have been caused by the drug.

Mr Fitzharris said he did not know of any such cases in Wellington, and Wellington Hospital's accident and emergency division said there had been none, at least in the last week.

Mr Fitzharris said the drug had been in use spasmodically overseas for the past couple of years.

"We know of its abuse in the United States and Australia."

Its use was still spasmodic in New Zealand.

He did not think there was the demand for it or LSD that there was for heroin.

He thought it a possibility that the new drug was introduced to get around the law.

"Some of these substances come onto the market when they are not barred by law. This is the basis on which a lot of these chemists in the States work. They just move outside the formula and they've got a completely new substance," he said.

"Initially, when this was first sighted it was not in breach of the law. But the Health Department moved quickly to put it onto the schedule under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

"Now it's in the same category as heroin and LSD, in terms of the penalty. Anyone trafficking in it is liable to life imprisonment."

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

JAILED ON HEROIN COUNT--Auckland, Dec 15 (PA).--A welder, Michael Edmond Luton, 37, was sentenced to 18 months jail when he appeared before Mr Justice Barker today after being found guilty of possessing heroin for supply. It was at his trial that the seven grams of heroin had a street value of about \$700. [Text] [Wellington EVENING POST in English 18 Dec 78 p 8]

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

MORPHINE USERS JAILED--Two men were yesterday jailed two months each by a magistrate for consuming morphine. Labourer Teo Kay Beng, 54, pleaded guilty to consuming the drug on Dec 31 last year, and Elias Ali, 52, admitted the same offence on Nov 22 last year. Teo had a previous conviction. In the same court, Mohamed Yusoff bin Rik, 25, was fined \$600, in default two months' jail, for consuming morphine at Marine Crescent on Oct 13 last year. He pleaded guilty. [Text] [Singapore SINGAPORE STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Jan 79 P 8 BK]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CANADIANS HELD IN POLICE HEROIN SWOOP

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jan 79 p 5 BK

[Text] Three Canadian tourists were arrested yesterday with 200 grammes of No 4 heroin packed in 52 condoms during a police raid in their hotel room in Suriwongse area early yesterday morning.

The three Canadians were given laxative after being arrested as police believed that they may have swallowed some condoms containing heroin upon police raid.

The three Canadians were identified as Gary Hornbrook (26), Michael Glance (27) and Miss Julia May Fisher, who were about to leave Bangkok later at 6 a.m. yesterday morning by a Japan Airline flight.

Acting on a tip-off, a joint Metropolitan Police's narcotics suppression and Bangrak police team led by Pol Maj Gen Saneh Sitthipan raided room No 320 in Manora Hotel where the three people were staying together at about 3 a.m. Hornbrook was reportedly in the process to injecting heroin for himself at the time of the police raid.

Upon searching their belongings, police found 52 condoms containing heroin in their suitcases. They were later taken to the Police Hospital to take laxative after they were suspected of swallowing some of the drug.

Hornbrook later confessed to police interrogators that he bought the heroin from Patpong area, aiming to smuggle it out of the country. He claimed he had succeeded in smuggling heroin out of Thailand a few times before. The other two tourists denied knowledge about the heroin, claiming that they had only known Hornbrook in Bangkok.

They were detained for further interrogation at Bangrak police station.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CHIANG MAI COURT TO TRY TWO AUSTRALIANS

Bangkok BANGKOK NATION REVIEW in English 19 Jan 79 p 3 BK

[Text] | **CHIANG MAI - Two Australians charged with heroin possession will be brought before a court in this northern province next Monday, police said yesterday.**

Police said George Bullock and Donald Worcester, both from Victoria, were arrested last Tuesday when police raided their hotel room in Downtown Chiang Mai and found 40 grams of heroin.

A spokesman for the Australian Embassy in Bangkok said Australian Vice Consul Alan Baltas has flown to Chiang Mai, 576 kilometres north of Bangkok, to look into the case.

Meanwhile, a narcotics agent in Bangkok said police submitted reports on the case of three other Australians held on drug charges to Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan earlier this month.

Police said the reports recommended that Gen Kriangsak exercise his constitutional powers allowing him to apply summary punishment, including the death sentence, without trial against the three.

Paul Cecil Haward, a nationally known rugby player, women's hairdresser Warren Edward fellows and Bangkok bar owner William Sinclair were arrested last Oct. 11 in connection with a seizure of heroin.

Gen Kriangsak told reporters last month he would not use his constitutional powers against the three and that the case should be decided by the courts.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AUSTRALIANS SUPPLIER FINALLY CAUGHT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jan 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

NARCOTICS Suppression police yesterday morning arrested the man who allegedly provided three Australians with 8.4 kilogrammes of No. 4 heroin.

Sydney rugby league star Paul Hayward, hairdresser Warren Edwards Fellows and Bangkok bar-owner William Charles Sinclair, all Australian nationals, were arrested October 11 last year for possession of heroin.

Kitti (Nol) Im-sap was arrested from his house

on Soi Chokechal 4 in Lard Prao yesterday morning. He reportedly said that following the arrest of the three Australians, he managed to evade police dragnet by constantly changing his hiding places.

Police said Kitti decided to return home only a few days before his arrest.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Court on Friday approved police request for further detention of the Australians.

The result of police investigations of the case,

together with Police Department recommendation that summary punishment be imposed on the three men, is currently being reviewed by Interior Minister Gen Lek Neaomalee.

Prime Minister Kriangsak Chomanan however said December 3 that he will not invoke his special powers under Article 27 against Hayward, Fellows and Sinclair on the ground their case is not more serious than those who were tried in court.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE RAID NETS TEN TONS OF MARIJUANA

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jan 79 p 5 BK

[Text]

UDON THANI
POLICE destroyed a large marijuana plantation hidden in the middle of a sugarcane field in Ban Non Dua of Tambon Ha Tard, Muang District here yesterday.

Three attendants of the marijuana plantation, identified as Noi Yongkhamsa (18), Koh Thongsuk (20) and Sin Loonsakawong (22) — all residents of Nakhon Phanom, were arrested during a raid led by the provincial superintendent, Pol Colonel Boonthin Wongrakmitr. The three men later

confessed to the police that they were hired a year ago by an influential merchant in Nakhon Phanom to plant the grass and to tend the plantation.

Before leaving the plantation, police raiders cut down all the marijuana plants which weighed over ten tons and worth about 500,000 baht. An urgent radio message was also despatched to Nakhon Phanom instructing the policemen there to hunt the alleged merchant whose name was withheld by the police.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

DRUG SUSPECT SUICIDE--Chaing Mai--One of the two men, suspected of carrying one kilogramme of heroin, shot himself dead with a pistol when they were stopped by police while driving their pick-up truck in the early hours of yesterday morning. The other men escaped when the suicide occurred. The dead suspect, Mi Saewat, 30, and his friend Thongdi Phuphansuk, 25, were driving a yellow Toyota pickup with 10 passengers at the back when they were stopped by police at a checkpoint in Samoeng District. Searching the pickup, police discovered two bags of heroin weighing one kilogramme. Mi told police that the heroin belonged to Thongdi who was sitting by his side. As police turned to question Thongdi, Mi took out his pistol and shot himself in the temple. Seizing the opportunity, Thongdi jumped off the pickup and disappeared into bushes. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK NATION REVIEW in English 14 Jan 79 p 1 BK]

HEROIN SMUGGLER ARRESTED--After two months of investigation, Crime Suppression police yesterday arrested a 46-year-old man together with four kgs of heroin, estimated to be worth about 400,000 baht. Police arrested the man, identified as Chumpol Chaiyanboon, in Soi 39 off Sukhumvit road after following him from the "porn" shop on Lard Prao Road where he had been staying. Chumpol drove a bronze-colour Toyota sedan into Soi 39 and walked down into a coffee shop to have a cup of coffee. He was booked when he returned to the car. Police conducted a search and found the heroin, weighing 4.5 kgs, in the car. Chumpol told police that he was to deliver the heroin to an agent in Hat Yai to be smuggled out of the country. He was charged with possessing of heroin for smuggling. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK NATION REVIEW in English 16 Jan 79 p 3 BK]

ONE YEAR FOR FRENCHMAN--A French national was yesterday sentenced to one year imprisonment after he was found guilty of possessing 33.32 grammes of high-grade heroin worth about 1,000 baht. Joseph Fenker (39) was earlier given a two-year jail term, but this was reduced to half because he confessed. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jan 79 p 3 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED AT AIRPORT--A Hong Kong-Chinese was this morning arrested by Customs officials at Don Muang airport on a charge of drug trafficking. Customs officials said they found about one kilogramme of No. 4 heroin in a suitcase belonging to Leung Chi Keung. Three plastic packages containing the drugs was neatly concealed in the cover of the suitcase, they said. [Bangkok WORLD in English 20 Jan 79 p 1 BK]

CARRIED DRUGS TO VICTORIA--Ranong--Police have arrested a Burmese woman and seized 27 packets of No. 5 heroin weighing 300 grammes in the waterfront area of Muang District. Police alleged that the woman, Mrs Teh So (19), regularly visited this province to purchase heroin and smuggled it into the Burmese port of Victoria for sale to drug addicts there. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Jan 79 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

TRAFFICKER ARRESTED WITH DRUG RELATED MATERIAL WORTH 20 MILLION CRUZEIROS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Dec 78 p 16

[Text] In Rio's Southern Zone yesterday, Sao Paulo police arrested Berthier Bacelar, one of the members of the Brazilian branch of the international drug Mafia. Tomaso Boscetta, the ring's leader in Brazil, was arrested some years ago. Two officers and an investigator from DEGRAN [Greater Sao Paulo Police Delegacy] took part in Bacelar's arrest, which came about after almost 5 months of investigation.

Bacelar was in a Maverick, license number "Campinas RG-30 30," which he purchased 5 months ago and used for his constant travel. The Sao Paulo police began to follow him after he bought the car, and finally arrested him yesterday on Avenida Ataulfo de Paiva, in Leblon.

Inside the car the police found 4 kgs of cocaine, several kinds of acid to mix with it, scales and also material to use in distributing it, valued at about 20 million cruzeiros in all. The material has been sent to the Eboli Institute for examination.

Sao Paulo delegates Nelio Randolpho Angironi and Alberto Langerami and investigator Lavin had notified police delegate Osmar Pecanha, of the 14th Delegacy of Rio's Southern Zone, that they were in his jurisdiction attempting to locate the Sao Paulo trafficker, which they succeeded in doing yesterday afternoon. Shortly after his arrest the DEGRAN police took Bacelar to the delegacy, where he was booked.

The police did not wish the trafficker's statement to be released, nor did the Sao Paulo police wish to be interviewed, claiming that they were not in their own state and that they could say nothing because, according to them, it would prejudice the investigation, which should be extended to other states and even outside Brazil. They did not know precisely where they had managed to arrest the trafficker. A Rio police officer commented that it was "in a hot zone." Avenida Ataulfo Paiva runs through the Leblon district, where the major cinemas and restaurants frequented by Rio's high society are located. The three DEGRAN police should remain in Rio a while longer. They said they had other leads and wanted to obtain more information from the arrested trafficker.

Bacelar has already been arrested four times in Sao Paulo, and convicted of drug traffic. On his release by the Rio police he should be transferred to Sao Paulo. It is believed that the seized cocaine reached Sao Paulo across the Mato Grosso border, and that Berthier was assigned to bring part of it to Rio for distribution to frequenters of Rio's southern zone.

Police did not wish to reveal how they discovered Bacelar was a member of the Brazilian branch of the drug Mafia. The ring was thought to be defunct, since almost all of its members in Rio and Sao Paulo had been arrested some years ago.



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CHILE

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS DISBANDED--A ring of drug traffickers has been disbanded and 27 kg of marihuana were seized. A large part of this police operation took place in Los Andes. A combined police operation allowed the arrest of 27 traffickers. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jan 79 PY]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BAEZA: COUNTRY MORE A TRANSSHIPMENT POINT THAN SOURCE OF MARIHUANA

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Dec 78 p A-12

[Text] Mexico is no longer the principal producer of the marihuana consumed in the United States; however, it has become the transshipment point between Central and South Americas and the United States for drug traffickers, EL SOL DE MEXICO was told by Fernando Baeza, top official in the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

The official based his statement on the fact that in 1977 the army and the Federal Judicial Police had wiped out 75 percent of the marihuana and opium poppy fields in our country and on the recent arrests of Colombian, Peruvian and Mexican traffickers in the states of Chiapas and Baja California Norte.

According to this official, drug trafficking is being combated primarily with electronic sensors located on clandestine landing fields operating on the southern and northern borders of the capital of the republic.

These devices permit detection of the presence of airplanes and immediately transmit their location to radar equipment and communications systems of the Federal Judicial Police. This has made it possible to capture dangerous cocaine traffickers who had been operating with impunity.

Baeza Melendez spoke of the variety of systems used to combat drug trafficking, not only the drug fields themselves but also transportation to another country, which is always the United States, the natural border with Mexico.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has requested the U.S. Government to keep an eye on airplanes or trucks which transport merchandise, imported into Mexico, as on their return they are loaded with drugs. The police authorities of that country have already been alerted, he said.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

COCAINE SEIZED IN TIJUANA, CHIAPAS

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 12 Dec 78 p 8-A

[Article by Sergio Gomez Padilla]

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police arrested four members of a ring of drug traffickers in Chiapas who had cocaine in their possession valued at nearly 500 million pesos. Several vehicles were also seized.

The prisoners are Alejandro and Jesus Mora Rolon, Gustavo Gonzalez Sanchez and Pedro Joaquin Guzman Colin. The first two men were riding in their 1978 Ford Galaxie automobile, with Los Angeles license plates, and Gonzalez Sanchez was driving a red 1976 Gremlin pickup truck with license plate number 448-BZE.

Gustavo Gonzalez was arrested in Tapachula in his pickup truck as he was driving along accompanied by his small son, Miguel Angel, age 5. The police found plastic bags containing 16 kilograms of drugs in the vehicle hidden in the doors, body and roof in false linings.

When questioned in this capital, he said that several weeks ago the Federal Police had intercepted their plane on a landing field near the Rio Usumacina containing cocaine valued at 380 million pesos; therefore, they had decided to transport the drugs by highway.

He admitted that he had made at least eight trips for which he had already been paid 35,000 pesos, as he received 5,000 pesos per trip.

He said that the presence of the child in the vehicle was for the purpose of throwing off the police and was at the instructions of the group and that the signal he was to use every time he arrived in Mexico City was to put on a yellow and white baseball cap.

The drugs were switched from one vehicle to another at a point in the Plaza de Cuatro Caminos in Naucalpan. After he had put on his baseball cap, he left the keys to the vehicle near the left rear tire and went to his home in the town of La Colmena, state of Mexico, where he runs a machine shop.

When the brothers Mora Rolon were arrested in Tijuana, Baja California, the Judicial Police found 10.5 kilos of cocaine in the lining of the doors and the roof, with the same texture and purity as the cocaine transported by Gustavo Gonzalez Sanchez.

Later, the investigators arrested Pedro Joaquin Colin Guzman who was carrying an additional 10 kilograms of excellent-quality cocaine. According to the experts, the purity of this drug permits it to be split 8 or 10 times; therefore, its initial value per kilogram which is 80,000 dollars increases considerably.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAINING FOR DGPT--Some 100 police officers from the Directorate General of Police and Traffic [DGPT] will be trained in the subjects of drug addiction and the prevention of juvenile delinquency during a seminar to be held by the National Institute of Criminal Investigations and the Police Academy, under the auspices of the Mexican Center for Mental Health Studies. Dr Mario Sarza Fernandez, director of Medical Services of the DGPT, reported that the officers who will participate in this course will become valuable collaborators in the antidrug campaign being conducted by that police organization. About 25,000 police officers of the DGPT, both preventive as well as officers from the DIPD [expansion unknown], will be trained in this work which is being done to wipe out drug addiction. The official stated that starting in January 1979, personnel from the DIPD and preventive police officers will be trained to collaborate in this campaign. Those receiving training will be assigned to hold conferences in secondary and middle level schools, as well as for parents to inform them of methods to eradicate drug addiction and juvenile delinquency. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 15 Dec 78 p 9-A] 8143

SHOOTOUT IN SINALOA--During a shootout between Federal Judicial Police agents and drug traffickers, one of the latter was killed and 1.5 kilos of pure heroin worth over 50 million pesos were confiscated. The shootout took place in the town of Villa Benito Juarez, municipality of Salvador Alvarado, Sinaloa, where army troops had discovered a community farm that was being supervised by several drug traffickers. According to reports, when the Judicial Police reached the farm they were greeted by gunshots from unknown persons who were hiding in the darkness; however, one of the Judicial Police officers managed to wound drug trafficker Federico Cuadros Lopex, who died shortly afterward at the scene of the shootout. When the police searched the area, they found 1.5 kilos of pure heroin, which is now highly prized on the drug market because the campaign against drug trafficking has intensified and drugs worth millions of pesos have been intercepted. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Dec 78 p 12-A] 8143

DRUG-CARRYING TANK TRUCKS--With the interception of a tank truck bearing PEMEX [Mexican Petroleum] markings which supposedly was transporting gas but which was carrying a large shipment of marihuana, the Federal Judicial Police discovered that a fleet of these vehicles is being used to take drugs from Oaxaca to the United States. Four persons have been arrested thus far, two of whom were riding in the tank truck and two others who were riding herd on the vehicle in a Ford pickup truck. The tank truck drivers stated that they had been making these trips for 3 months and that the shipment was being transported from Oaxaca to the northern border. The Federal Judicial Police headed by Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero are looking for the owner of tank trucks, who also falsified PEMEX documents to show that the cargo was fuel. It was learned in the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic that another fugitive died recently. It is believed that he was killed by the same ring of drug traffickers. Each ton of marihuana was sold for 5 million pesos at the border. The capacity of the tanker was 5 to 7 tons. The intercepted truck had a special compartment. Drugs were carried in the bottom. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Dec 78 p D-5] 8143

CSO: 5300

PERU

BRIEFS

DRUG RING BROKEN--The investigations police have broken up a drug traffic ring which was operating between Lima and Bogota, Colombia. The operation took place on 6 and 7 January. The members of the ring were arrested and 132 kilos of cocaine paste, money in different currencies, weapons and vehicles were confiscated. [Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 79 PY]

MARXIST LEADER ARRESTED--Lima, 27 Jan (EFE)--On Friday the police arrested one of the chief leaders of the Marxist Peruvian Single Union of Education (SUTEP), who was found with over 20 kilos of cocaine in his possession. The government news agency reported the arrest, adding that the criminal organization was composed of extremist university students who had international contacts. Carlos Gutierrez Montes de Oca is the union leader whom, according to official accounts, was found with a large amount of money in his possession. The cocaine was found buried in the garden of his house. The union, which is said to represent most Peruvian teachers, staged a 3-month strike in 1978. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0942 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

DRUG PUSHER--Caracas, 26 Jan (EFE)--A courier for an international drug ring was arrested today by Venezuelan authorities at Maiquetia Airport carrying cocaine worth almost \$5 million. Venezuelan police authorities arrested the courier, U.S. citizen Rosent Cooper, when he arrived on a flight from Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The Venezuelan authorities had been alerted to his arrival by Interpol. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0539 GMT 27 Jan 79 PA]

DRUG ARREST--The authorities arrested Jose de Jesus Ortega, a Colombian, and Manuel Vida Silva, a Puerto Rican, for possession of 1.5 kilos of pure cocaine, worth 1.5 million Bolivares, in a border town in Zulia state. The cocaine was found in Vida Silva's suitcase. [Caracas Radio RUMBOS Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

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MADAGASCAR

INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF DANGEROUS DRUGS REPORTED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 10 Jan 79 p 65

[Article by Mustafa Zawy: "Weeds". Investigation by Rasola Lala in Antananarivo]

[Text] Africa, too, has its drugs. That is well known. But the phenomenon is expanding. The African authorities are becoming increasingly aware of it. They have begun to organize regional meetings sponsored by the United Nations Narcotic Division.

Drugs such as cannabis, khat, cola, hashish or Indian hemp are part of the daily life of many Africans. In Madagascar and East Africa, for example, khat, or "dream grass" is chewed in the form of leaves. Certain varieties (there are 27 in all) of khat grow almost everywhere and are scarcely distinguishable from other herbs that serve as condiments in daily meals.

The clandestine cultivation of khat extends into every corner of Africa, the countries bordering the Red Sea and Madagascar. In Senegal cannabis is grown in all regions and its marketing is increasingly well organized, despite the severity of the law. The same is true of the Ivory Coast, where the number of drug "affairs" officially recorded went from 98 in 1976 to 108 in 1977. In Djibouti more than 80 percent of the inhabitants khat initiates. According to a recent United Nations report the African narcotics prevention departments in 1976 seized some 457,132 kilos of cannabis (or an increase of 150,000 kilos over 1974), compared with 1,747,431 kilos seized worldwide.

Another alarming phenomenon in Africa: some drug addicts are now resorting to pharmaceutical products--a relatively new practice. Dr H. al-Hakim, an Egyptian expert, calling Africa the contaminated continent, set up a cry of alarm in Antananarivo. He is asking the African states to organize joint and stricter control by calling especially for technical assistance from the international organizations. According to Maurice Randrianome, a Malgasy expert and one of the few Africans who sit on the United Nations Narcotics Commission, repression is not a good solution; it is necessary to reeducate drug addicts and in particular to develop prevention.

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In any case, this is not the way the Abidjan conference seems to have selected. It recommends creating an interministerial commission responsible for legislating on the drug addict; should he be considered a delinquent liable to severe penalties provided for by law, or a sick person who must be taken care of? The fact that the question is still being asked cannot fail to come as a surprise. Added to the absence of any reference to tradition and the new profound motivations pushing Africans into taking drugs, it rather expresses the confusion of the leaders vis-a-vis a problem that seems to be beyond them.

Aphrodisiac and Carcinogenic

Khat has become "very dangerous" in Madagascar, where its cultivation, which extended over 32 hectares in 1972, today exceeds 500 hectares in the province of Antseranana alone (Diego-Suarez). It exists also in Toleary and Brickaville. According to Commissioner Maurice Randrianame, head of the narcotics department, 60 percent of the persons arrested for drug consumption and 45 percent of the dealers apprehended are youths.

Khat has anorexic, central nervous system stimulating, indeed aphrodisiac properties. But the regular consumer becomes "unfit" for any work. According to some experts khat contains carcinogenic components as well.

The United Nations Narcotics Laboratory in Geneva has agreed to finance the creation very soon in Antananarivo of a research center that would serve to detect--and thus to combat--khat consumption.

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CSO: 5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

DRUG USE RISING--According to a report being prepared by the various special police services, the number of deaths resulting from drug use went from 72 in 1977 to 109 in 1978; 7,200 users-pushers were questioned in 1978 as opposed to 4,000 the year before. There are probably 30,000 to 50,000 drug addicts in France, 10,000 of them on hard drugs. [Text] [Paris L'HUMANITE in French 15 Jan 79 p 12]

DRUG HAULS SEIZED--On Tuesday evening [23 January], customs officers at Orly Airport seized 1,600 kilograms of cocaine with a value of 1,300,000 francs that an automobile mechanic named Aldana Quinceno, 34, a Colombian arriving from Bogota, was carrying in his suitcase. He said that the drug in question was "for his own personal use." A few hours later, the same officers arrested a Madrid student coming in from Casablanca, Miss Serano Sanz de la Morena, who had a 6-kilogram package of hashish (worth about 60,000 francs) hidden in her suitcases. She said that the package had been given to her in Morocco by an unknown person who was to retrieve it at Orly. [Text] [Paris L'HUMANITE in French 25 Jan 79 p 12]

CSO: 5300

NORWAY

AUTHORITIES REPORT INCREASE IN PHARMACEUTICALS THEFTS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 4 Jan 79 p 4

[Text] Dangerous pharmaceuticals are still circulating among narcotics addicts in Oslo. The drugs were stolen from pharmacies and physicians' offices, and the police does not exclude the possibility that use of such drugs may account for the deaths of no less than six narcotics addicts in the capital during the latter half of December. Autopsies performed at the Medico-legal Institute will provide the final answer to the causes of death.

According to the latest survey published by the Oslo Police, a total of 26 narcotics deaths were recorded in Norway in 1978, eight of which outside Oslo. This is seven more than in 1974, which hitherto had the highest narcotics death rate.

Pål S. Berg, an inspector of the Oslo Police, told the NTB [Norwegian Telegraph Agency] that 25 grams of the dangerous morphine preparation methadone chloride was stolen from Fagerborg Pharmacy in Oslo on 17 December, and that the six deaths were recorded after that date.

This is an extremely powerful drug, and narcotics addicts who have got hold of it may have misjudged its strength. The reason for all this is probably that several physicians used to prescribe rather small doses of methadone chloride to narcotics addicts until the National Health Service put an end to this practice.

Pål Berg went on to say that narcotics addicts who are in need of narcotics do not evaluate the danger of the drug they are using, and this may easily have tragic outcomes. He also mentioned that there is a relatively high mortality rate among narcotics addicts in this country compared to a few other countries with which it would be natural to compare Norway.

7262
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NORWAY

AUTHORITIES DISCUSS INCREASED HEROIN TRAFFIC IN OSLO

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 6 Jan 79 p 17

[Article by Petter Nome]

[Text] In the course of the last year, an assured market for heroin has been created in Oslo. This will, no doubt, result in an increased interest in Norway among international narcotics rings. So far the Norwegian narcotics market has been marked by sporadic and irregular supplies. We fear that this is changing.

The above statements were made to ARBEIDERBLADET by Hans Jacob Stang, M.D., a psychiatrics consultant to the outpatient narcotics treatment center in Oslo.

Both the police and officials of the outpatient narcotics treatment center are of the opinion that the hard core of young narcotics addicts in the town is growing, bringing in its wake a higher crime rate and stricter law enforcement in areas of narcotics addiction.

How is the drug situation in Oslo at the moment?

According to recent rumors circulating among narcotics addicts, heroin is in short supply. No doubt, this is a marketing trick on the part of narcotics dealers. They hold the drug off the market for certain periods of time in order then to raise their prices, said Håkon Formo Berntzen, administrative chief of the outpatient narcotics treatment center.

Highly Dangerous Drugs Stolen

Dangerous pharmaceuticals are still circulating among narcotics addicts in Oslo. They were stolen from pharmacies and physicians' offices. The police assume that stolen pharmaceuticals may have caused several of the 18 narcotics deaths that were recorded in the capital in 1978. Twenty-five grams of the highly dangerous drug methadone chloride disappeared from Fagerborg Pharmacy just before Christmas. Six narcotics addicts have died in Oslo since then.

According to Formo Berntzen, many young people talk in enthusiastic terms about methadone, considering it a good means in the treatment of morphine addiction, but this is a highly dangerous drug. It is extremely difficult to dose, and if it is mixed with other drugs, disastrous effects may result.

Death After Release From Prison

According to Pål Berg, an Oslo police inspector, another problem is that narcotics dealers dilute heroin and other morphine preparations. This is done to obtain the highest possible price per gram on the illegal market. Consequently, narcotics addicts will never be certain whether or not they can tolerate a dose.

Pål Berg went on to say that the police have several examples of labels being changed on medicine bottles in areas of narcotics addiction. He also mentioned that the death rate among narcotics addicts is relatively high in Norway compared to countries with which it would be natural to compare Norway. The police also have examples that narcotics addicts released from prison after some time without drugs die of an overdose because they can no longer tolerate as much as before they were imprisoned.

Pål Berg added that it often happens that narcotics addicts help one another with injections. In such cases, those who inject may be charged with involuntary manslaughter, perhaps even murder, if a friend or girl friend dies of an overdose.

More Young People Looking Down on Narcotics

What do we know about narcotics abuse among young people in Oslo?

Applications at the drug treatment center have doubled since 1976, said Formo Berntzen. The number of enrollments has increased by over 25 percent. These are enormous figures in view of the fact that new areas of hardcore narcotics addiction are still being formed in a number of other places in Norway. Nevertheless, young people settling in Oslo account for the majority of the approximately 6,500 applications that the narcotics treatment center received in 1978.

A recent investigation by the National Alcoholics Research Institute nevertheless seems to indicate that an increasing number of young people in Oslo are looking down on drug use. In 1974 more than 20 percent of the young people in Oslo between 15 and 21 years of age stated that they had tried marihuana or hashish. The figure for 1978 is 17.5 percent. Stronger drugs such as amphetamine, LSD and morphine preparations show an even greater decline. Nevertheless, both the police and officials at the narcotics treatment center feel that there is little reason for optimism.

Interpol has recorded an increase in cannabis use around Europe, according to Per Carlson, assistant chief officer of the narcotics squad of the

Oslo Police. This may be due to the fact that the police have devoted most of their attention to the harder drugs. A similar development is not inconceivable in this country either.

There has been a decline in the number of heroin seizures on the continent, but that is hardly due to a decline in the narcotics traffic. The enemies of the police continue to change their tactics. Increasingly advanced methods of smuggling and narcotics trafficking are being developed, methods which are difficult to detect, Carlson said. He also feared that international narcotics rings will take over more and more of the users' own marketing network.

Even if the number of new addicts has reached its peak, both the police and the narcotics treatment center officials fear stronger addiction among addicts. It is the established drug environment that is becoming increasingly harder, more addicts are getting in a physically poorer condition than before.

Cooperation with Interpol

What can be done to limit imports?

It is not a question of resources, Carlson said. No country that has encountered these problems has succeeded in coping with them. The police seek to keep an eye on the areas of narcotics addiction, they have a good and fruitful cooperation with Interpol and the police in other countries. However, it is often mere accidents that lead to the unravelling of narcotics cases. The heroin market in particular creates big problems. Here it is a question of enormous profits, even for very small quantities of heroin.

Clients Turned Away

The cold of winter also bothers narcotics addicts. The narcotics treatment center turns away up to 15 people a day who have nowhere to go for the night.

The problems of lodgings are enormous, said Formo Berntzen. The lack of space in the institutions is such that even those who are motivated to undergo treatment cannot be accommodated. There is reason to fear an increase in narcotics deaths in the coming year. Eighteen dead narcotics addicts in 1978 must be considered a minimum figure.

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NORWAY

BRIEFS

FEWER BERGEN DRUGS CASES--In 1978 the number of narcotics cases brought before Bergen Police Court dropped to 89 from 101 the year before. The development is positive, but I am afraid that the figures, unfortunately, do not give the correct picture of the actual situation in Bergen. This information was provided by Einar Horvei, chief criminal investigator, at a press conference given by the Bergen police chiefs last Thursday. The narcotics traffic at Bergen is still heavy, but the police have noticed signs that the upward trend in the number of newcomers to this dangerous traffic now has begun to level off. [Text] [Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 5 Jan 79 p 2] 7262

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SPAIN

DRUG ABUSE COMMISSION RESTRUCTURED

Madrid ABC in Spanish 27 Dec 78 p 7

[Text] The interministerial commission for the study of problems resulting from the use of drugs has been restructured by virtue of a royal decree published in the BOLETIN OFICIAL DEL ESTADO yesterday.

This commission has a different name from the former commission of the same nature formed for the study of problems resulting from alcoholism and drug trafficking.

The decree states that because it has been subjected to an accelerated process of change, Spain's social situation has evolved considerably in recent years. In many social groups, there are problems deriving from drug use, which makes it necessary to adopt coordinated and effective measures.

The new commission will be headed by the minister of health. The deputy chairmen will be the undersecretaries of health and public order. Its voting members, with the classification of general directors, will be representatives of the ministries of health, finance, interior, culture, justice, foreign affairs, defense, education and science, labor and industry and energy. Other voting participants will be a representative of the Red Cross and the chairman of the High Council on Minors. The secretary will be an official from the Ministry of Health.

The commission will have the following organs: standing commission, work groups and office of secretary. There will be a meeting of the entire commission at least once every 6 months, to be decided by the head of the commission. The standing commission will meet on a regular basis every 3 months and will hold special meetings when its chairman or a simple majority of the members should so decide.

An additional provision states that it is the office of undersecretary of health that will have competency over matters relating to alcoholism, while the interministerial commission may study the implications and social effects of the problem of alcohol.

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SPAIN

HASHISH CONFISCATED IN MALAGA

Madrid YA in Spanish 24 Dec 78 p 37

[Text] A Civil Guard coastal patrol has discovered 11 bundles containing 162 kilograms of hashish in a place known as Curva Higueron, near Palo de Malaga. Continuing the investigation, the patrol discovered that the drug in question had been unloaded one hour previously by an auxiliary boat of a trawler, the "Maria Salome," with a registration from Huelva and based in Malaga, according to EUROPA PRESS.

The incident led to the arrest of five individuals, seizure of the trawler and the auxiliary boat and a small Mercedes truck in which the drug was to be transported. The total seizure amounted to nearly 20 million pesetas counting the drug, boats and the vehicle.

The individuals arrested for this hashish smuggling operation, one of the largest so far this year, are the following: Francisco Munoz Rodriguez, 43, owner of the boat; his brothers, Antonio and Jose Munoz Rodriguez, 30 and 34 years old respectively, both sailors; Francisco Munoz Canillas, 18, son of the first suspect; and Francisco Villegas Montanez, 18, also a sailor.

The Civil Guard also learned that the "merchandise" was picked up at an unknown place between the coast of Ceuta and Tangiers, delivered by a Moroccan.

In addition, Civil Guard agents carried out 18 operations in the national territory, apprehending different smuggled objects worth some 52 million pesetas.

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SPAIN

BRIEFS

THEFT OF MORPHINE, COCAINE--At 2325 hours, two youths between the ages of 15 and 18 and armed with knives entered the Almirall Pharmacy at 72 Calle de Gerona. They stole 9,000 pesetas and then broke a glass display case from which they took a box of Maticilina, a box containing 25 ampoules of morphine, another with about the same number of ampoules of cocaine and 10 grams of morphine powder. Switchblades, all far exceeding 11 centimeters in length, are taking over the city day and night. The preceding five incidents, all serious in nature, serve as a reminder of the ban on the sale of these so-called "blank" weapons when their size is such as to make them dangerous. [Excerpt] [Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 7 Dec 78 p 55] 11,464

DUTCH, ENGLISH TRAFFICKERS--This past weekend, special services of the Civil Guard confiscated large quantities of drugs. The confiscations took place at various locations in Spain and basically involved foreigners. At the Barajas Airport (Madrid), Civil Guard services apprehended 2.1 kilograms of high-quality cocaine, worth about 21 million pesetas. The suspects detained were Koeter Roelof and Hevan Jerland Nilson, of Dutch nationality. The Civil Guard also seized 9.2 kilograms of hashish worth 2.5 million pesetas. Officers confiscated 1.85 kilograms of hashish oil worth 1.8 million pesetas from John Stuart Ackary, of English nationality. In 75 other actions, the forces of the Civil Guard broke up illegal activities involving a sum of some 38.7 million pesetas. The activities included an illegal raffle in Tenerife involving the sum of over 5 million pesetas. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 19 Dec 78 p 37] 11,464

HEROIN, COCAINE FROM THAILAND--Last weekend, the Civil Guard at Barajas Customs arrested five persons involved in two different operations. Drugs worth 50 million pesetas were seized. The first operation took place when officers detected an attempt to smuggle in 2.2 kilograms of heroin carried in plastic bags, coat linings and talcum powder cans. Eugenio Gomez Bustamante, Rafael Rodriguez and Rosario Navas were arrested, having arrived at the Barajas airport from Thailand via Copenhagen. The value of the merchandise is 30 million pesetas. The second drug seizure involved 2.2 kilograms of cocaine being brought into the country from Colombia by Rafael Costa and Eva Jerlan. The drug is worth 21 million pesetas. [Excerpt] [Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 19 Dec 78 p 25] 11,464

HEROIN SEIZURE--Heroin worth 240 million pesetas was seized by Barcelona police following a 3-month investigation. The police operation led to the arrest of Fernando Manzanera Serran, Dimas Borge Castell, both from Madrid, Jorge Oliach Capdevila, from San Juan Despi (Barcelona), and Manuel Fernando Rueda Cuesta. The individuals arrested, who have been turned over to the courts, had brought the drug from Thailand. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 24 Dec 78 p 38] 11,464

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END